ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An ink set that affords high print quality and stable discharge, places a small load on the apparatus, has a plurality of colors of ink jet recording ink, allows a substantially uniform amount of each color of ink to be discharged, and yields a recorded image with virtually no difference in the size of the dots between colors, and a method for manufacturing this ink set, and an ink jet recording apparatus. The ink set for ink jet recording of the present invention comprises a plurality of colors of ink containing pigments in which the aspect ratio (σ) between the major and minor axes of the pigment particles is 2 or less, and the value of $\eta(1 - n(\sigma - 1))$, which is calculated from the ink viscosity (η) as measured at a shear rate of 200 S^{-1} and at 20°C, is within ±5% for said plurality of colors of ink. The method for manufacturing the ink set for ink jet recording of the present invention is such that the value of $\eta(1 - n(\sigma - 1))$, as measured at a specific shear rate and a specific temperature, is within ±5% for said plurality of colors of ink. The ink jet recording apparatus of the present invention makes use of the above-mentioned ink set for ink jet recording, and employs a head whose drive system is electrostrictive or thermal.